

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 110078
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICAE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /060 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:MHORNBLOW:DAM
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACoon
NEA - RNEUMANN

-----121257 302044Z /66

O R 302037Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110078

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINT, AF

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH LOUIS DUPREE

LEADING AFGHANOLOGIST LOUIS DUPREE FORTUITOUSLY RETURNED
FROM CHINA DAY AFTER COUP AND MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS
TO DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

1. DUPREE BELIEVED LEFTIST COUP AND "BLOODBATH" WAS
INEVITABLE AND IT WAS JUST A QUESTION OF TIMING. HE
BELIEVES NOW THAT AFGHANS HAVE "TASTED" BLOOD THERE WILL
BE A PROLONGED PERIOD OF POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND OTHER
ATTEMPTED COUPS. IN SHORT THIS WAS BEGINNING OF A CON-
TINUING POWER STRUGGLE AND IT IS LIKELY THAT MORE BLOOD
WILL BE SHED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 110078

2. DUPREE BELIEVES THERE ARE SERIOUS DOCTRINAEVENTUALLY
BETWEEN TWO GROUPS COMPRISING KHALQ WHICH MAY EVENTUALLY
SPLIT THEM APART. THUS FAR ONLY THING THAT HAS KEPT THEM
TOGETHER WAS THEIR HATRED FOR MOHAMMEDZAIS. HE SAYS THERE
ARE PERSONALITY DIFFERENCEBETWEEN LEADERS OF TWO GROUPS.
THUS THERE MAY BE AN EVENTUAL COUNTER-COUP FROM WITHIN

KHALQ LEADERSHIP.

3. DUPREE DOES NOT BELIEVE KHALQI'S WERE ALL THAT STRONG

BUT THEY SUCCEEDED BECAUSE "THEY HAD CONTROL OF NEXUS OF POWER".

4. DUPREE SEES POSSIBILITY OF GUERRILLA WARFARE IN TRIBAL AREAS. THIS COULD BEGIN THIS WINTER BECAUSE AFGHANS MUCH PREFER FIGHTING IN WINTER. HE BELIEVES DAOUD WAS GREATLY RESPECTED BY TRIBAL LEADERS BECAUSE FORMER PRESIDENT HAD SPENT MUCH OF HIS EARLY CAREER IN JALALABAD. DUPREE THINKS IF TRIBES DO START SOMETHING TEMPTATION FOR PAKS TO START "DIDDLING" ACROSS FRONTIER MIGHT BE IRRESISTABLE. THIS KIND OF "FOREIGN ADVENTURE" MIGHT DIVERT PAKS FROM INTERNAL PROBLEMS.

5. DUPREE BELIEVES IT MIGHT BE IN INTEREST OF NEW REGIME TO RESURRECT PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE. HE SAID KHALQISTS HAD THOUGHT DAOUD WAS TOO SOFT ON PUSHTUNISTAN.

6. DUPREE FEELS PRIMARY MOTIVATION OF COUP LEADERS WAS TO "GET RID OF" MOHAMMEDZAIS. HE BELIEVES MANY OF THOSE KILLED DURING COUP WERE MOHAMMEDZAIS BECAUSE IF THEY WERE NOT ALL ELIMINATED THE BLOOD FEUD (HATFIELD-MC COY) WOULD CONTINUE. HE DESCRIBES NEW LEADERS AS SOCIALIST-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 110078

NATIONALISTS. HE SAID QADIR DEFINITELY A MEMBER OF KHALQ (TARAKI GROUP).

7. DUPREE NOTED THAT TARAKI HAD NEVER BEEN ANTI-AMERICAN. IN FACT TARAKI HAD SPENT SOME TIME IN US

8. DUPREE DOES NOT FEEL SOVIETS WERE BEHIND COUP OR KNEW ABOUT IT MUCH IN ADVANCE. IN 1973 COUP MANY SOVIET DIPLOMATS WERE CALLED BACK TO MOSCOW FOR CONSULTATION, A CLEAR SIGN THEY DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON. THE SAME THING MAY HAPPEN AGAIN.

9. DUPREE THINKS THAT NEW REGIME IN BEGINNING MAY ACT CAUTIOUSLY TO REASSURE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS. HOWEVER THERE MAY ALSO BE MUCH ANTI-AMERICAN RHETORIC AND IT MAY BE FASHIONABLE TO BE ANTI-AMERICAN. NEW GROUP THOUGH IS PRIMARILY NATIONALIST AND DESPITE PROBABLE ANTI-AMERICAN RHETORIC THEY WILL WISH TO CONTINUE SOME SORT OF BALANCING ACT, REMAIN NON-ALIGNED AND RETAIN SOME SORT OF AMERICAN PRESENCE.

10. IN A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION AFTER APPOINTMENT OF

TARAKI ANNOUNCED,DUPREE AGAIN ASSERTED THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE FOR US TO LOOK UPON TARAKI AS PRO-RUSSIAN. HE IS MUCH MORE OF A NATIONALIST AND WHEN IN US WAS ACCUSED OF BEING A CIA AGENT. DUPREE DOES NOT THINK THAT THE SOVIETS

WILL BE ABLE TO CONTROL HIM.

11. DUPREE ANTICIPATES THERE WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL IN-FIGHTING AMONG LEADERS OF NEW GROUP. AS APPOINTMENTS ARE ANNOUNCED HE WILL BE LOOKING AT BALANCE BETWEEN PARCHAM AND KHALQ ELEMENTS AND AT MILITARY-CIVILIAN RATIO. SUCH BALANCING IS EVIDENT IN APPOINTMENTS OF NEW CO-MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MUKAMEL (A CLOSE FRIEND OF BABRAK AND A PARCHAMIST) AND DOST (A KHALQI).
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 110078

12. DUPREE BELIEVES THAT NEW REGIME MAY TRY TO PRESENT IMAGE OF A LEFT OF CENTER COALITION. FOR THESE PURPOSES THEY MAY DRAW DOWN INTO THEIR INTELLECTUAL SOIL-BANK AND PULL OUT PEOPLE LIKE RAWAN FARHADI IN ORDER TO BURNISH THEIR IMAGE. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MEETING REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE110078
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MHORNBLOW:DAM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780185-0204
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978041/aaaaaabn.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cd32b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2811227
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH LOUIS DUPREE LEADING AFGHANOLOGIST LOUIS DUPREE FORTUITOUSLY RETURNED FROM CHINA DAY AFTER COUP AND MADE FOLLOWING OBSER
TAGS: PINT, AF, (DUPREE, LOUIS)
To: KABUL
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cd32b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014